

To Whom It May Concern;

A few months ago, I became a member of "The Valley Chatterbox" for the purpose of posting free classified ads. TVCB is a local community forum for the East Alabama - West Georgia Chattahoochee River Valley area including Valley, Alabama - Lanett, owned by ALGA Media Inc. in Opelika, AL - April C. Carroll and sells advertisements to local businesses. It wasn't until around August 24th that I began to participate in the public discussion forum. The topics of the discussion board appear to focus on our local home town news. At first, I thought it was a good idea for the citizens to share thoughts and ideas about how to better improve our community. However, I found out that there were derogatory and slanderous statements being made about City Employees, public officials and private citizen.

April Carroll the owner of this site regularly participates in the forum discussions and has the ability to delete and modify any posts by any member. On one occasion she stated that she has a third party contracted to moderate the discussions. As I began to look through some of the former postings, I saw a discussion regarding a former Chief of Police, Mike Taylor and former City Manager, Tim Bryan of Valley, AL.

Apparently, they were unhappy about how the former Chief of Police handled a situation a few years ago when a student allegedly brought a gun to school. A member calling himself "woodcutterr" posted publicly that Mike Taylor was a sick, sick man and that I didn't want him to baby sit my kids. When I ask him what he meant by that, he compared Mr. Taylor to Jeffrey Dohlmer a convicted serial killer. I began to make posts asking for clarification of the defamatory statements, which in my opinion, were made with reckless disregard for the truth toward these gentlemen concerning a matter of public concern. I cautioned them of the seriousness of making public statements like that about a person who is now a private citizen and questioned their motives for doing

such things. When I disagreed with him, stating that a comparison like that wasn't logical and asking him to explain the evidence better in a way with fewer inconsistencies and cover more data, they began to insult me and also going into other topic forums maliciously attacking me, my husband and our marriage on every topic of discussion. All of which are against the ALGA official rules. I even made a couple of post saying that we're getting too passionate about our opinions and should get back on a track and disagree respectfully.

Several times forum members made biased, distorted, partial, uninformed and down- right prejudiced statements attacking members of our community, me, my husband and my marriage. They kept making provoking statements toward my husband to participate in the forum.

I told them that my husband said that they were acting like hillbillies and had no interest in their childish games.

Finally, on Saturday, September 4, 2010, I posted a statement saying, I was considering deleting my membership because my husband didn't like the site due to some remarks made to me by some of the men who claimed they were married and April allowing the members to regularly insulting him and me. April never said anything to correct them and whenever I would speak up for my husband and myself, she would post comments contradicting me and threatening to ban me from the forum. April began taking my words out of context intentionally for the purpose of justifying her comments direct toward me and my husband. I explained that my husband's opinion was based upon their behavior and that the site had given him the impression that it was nothing more than a dating site for married people to cheat on their spouses.

April then posted a comment after that defending the site, its members and accusing my husband and me of sexual innuendos. I replied by posting and telling her that I was a new member and it was the behavior of the more senior members that has given my husband this impression of her site and that she should supervise their activity a little better. I ended by telling her that I was going to delete my account and remove my profile and stating that this site "wasn't my crowd of people". I also posted a response to her telling her that her office is in Opelika AL and I didn't recall anyone talking bad about the Opelika City Employees or Mayor of Opelika only the City Employees and Mayor of Valley AL. She immediately locked my profile so I couldn't get in to delete my profile or defend myself against the attacks of the other members. Once she locked my profile, the other members then began to attack my husband and me even more.

My conclusion is that TVCB a Public Media Outlet has sacrificed and banned any fact based communication in their public forums. Their members are writing opinions that are not fact based but based upon emotional impulses, selfish motives, nefarious purposes, or other modes of self-deception while disguised as a media outlet serving their community. To accomplish their agenda they have sacrificed critical thinking to achieve the outcome they want. April Carroll deceptively positions herself and her members as defenders of our community while cleverly hiding behind positive phrases to push her hidden agenda that seeks to destroy the reputation of, City Employees, Private Citizens, and elected public officials causing members to become distracted and just pile on a current theme without actually thinking about it. I do not think that this site is acting in the legal capacity of an established media outlet of its kind. I feel that this Media Incorporation should be investigated by the proper governing officials. Furthermore feel that ALGA Inc. should have their business license revoked and the Incorporation should be dissolved from existence should such an investigation by officials validate my complaint.

Sincerely;

Teresa Shelander